

MINUTES
ALTA TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2010
ALTA COMMUNITY CENTER
ALTA, UTAH

1. The Mayor called the meeting to order. All members of the Town Council were present.
2. Update on Antimony Treatment Plant Operation – Keith Hanson

Keith Hanson prepared two handouts which he circulated to the Council and the public. He reviewed the first graph with the Council which outlined the antimony concentrations coming out of the antimony treatment plant in the Bay City tunnel building. The time period was from the start up of the plant through the water samples taken in March of 2010. Keith explained that the two thirds of the water is treated and one third is bypassed. As a result of this blending, the Town is able to keep the antimony level below the legal EPA limit of 6 parts per billion.

Keith explained that since the treatment plant went on line, the Town has run 10.2 million gallons through the treatment filters and 6.5 million gallons have bypassed the filter. We are now at 19,417 bed volumes. Keith explained that the media should last up to 100,000 bed volumes before the Town has to replace the media.

Keith reviewed the compliance report that is sent to the State Division of Drinking Water which outlined the running annual average of quarterly samples taken from the plant.

The Mayor asked if the Town would have to replace the media in both filters at the same time once they reach their maximum. Keith explained that we would only replace the primary filter and move the secondary filter into the primary position in the system. Keith explained this time of year is when the antimony concentration levels in the mine are at their highest.

3. Public Hearing: To receive comments and recommendations on the use of Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG) for the 2010-2011 Program Year.

The Mayor introduced Karen Wiley from the Salt Lake County Community Development department. Karen explained that she has worked with Kate to review the all the proposed projects to make sure they qualified under the CDBG program. The CDBG program is mostly for bricks and motor projects but there is an allowance for 15% of the funding of the total funding the Town receives to be used for public service activities which CDBG calls soft costs. Various agencies apply to the County to use those soft cost funds.

Karen explained that her department has been conducting a survey in the Town of Alta to make sure that Alta stays within the low to moderate limits that HUD allows. The survey was prepared by an intern working with Karen and Kate distributed the survey throughout the resident population in the Town of Alta. Karen's department has completed the statistical analysis of the surveys and has found that between 61% and 64% of the population are below the median income which would make most of the activities in Alta compliant. The Denver office has to approve those numbers.

The Mayor opened the floor to discussion on this subject.

Megan Maughn from the Road Home explained that the Road Home had applied for \$1,500 through the Town's soft costs to help fund their services. She understood that funding was tight and thanked the Town of Alta for their past support of their services.

Roger Bourke asked if any funds could be spent on keeping the dust down around the volleyball court in the summer. Dave Richards commented that the dust comes from the access road and the Town will try to use some of the dust retardant on the road this summer to help with this problem.

Kate explained that the Town of Alta has made a recommendation on the use of the 2010/2011 Program year funds. A majority of the funding will be spent on improvements to the housing units at the Fire Station and Alta Central. The Town will also spend some funds on improvements to the public restroom at the Community Center, purchase Community Center audio/visual equipment and make some improvements to Town park.

Hearing no further comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

4. Mayor's Report

The Mayor commended all those that have been involved in handling the extreme weather in the canyon over the last week.

On Friday, March 12th, the Town of Alta received a favorable opinion from the Utah State Ombudsman with regard to the Shrontz Estate's request to review the Town's decision on the natural waterways issue.

The Mayor brought up and reviewed the latest effort by Congressman Matheson to expand the wilderness area along the Wasatch Front. This process has taken over 15 months, but over the last three weeks a stipulation in the language of the bill was added that addresses a land exchange that involves Snowbird Ski area. Snowbird is looking at doing some expansion in the American Fork Twins area and in order to accomplish that goal, they are proposing a land swap with the Forest Service. The land that Snowbird wants to trade is land that they own on the north side of Highways 210 above the Town of Alta. Initially this appeared to be a positive thing for the Town of Alta. But in order to get the environmental community to sign off on this exchange there was a condition put

in the bill that the proposed Alta Ski Lift Company lift for avalanche control purposes to Flagstaff Ridge could never be built. The mayor opined that at this point the proposed wilderness bill crossed the line. The Mayor stated that he has been on the phone with Washington, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, and Save Our Canyons over this proposal and after proposing some options to the Town Council, the Town of Alta decided to publically object to this Wilderness proposal as it stands until it addresses some of the avalanche control concerns and issues of the Town of Alta. The Mayor also opined that to remove this exchange from the Forest Service NEPA process is not right. The NEPA process is in place to protect the public and to give them an avenue to comment on proposals such as this. We will continue to have dialogue with all parties on this matter.

Cliff explained that he is drafting a letter to Representative Matheson expressing his concerns about this as well.

Steve Gilman explained some of the back ground on the avalanche control program in the Town of Alta. The Ski Lift Company is replacing the P-Ridge gun with a 105 howitzer, which upgrades the program from a 1950's area weapon. The issue is that if there is ever an accident with the military weapon, the Ski Lift Company would be very close to losing this method of avalanche control. If the Ski Lift loses this weapon that protects the Town of Alta, Steve felt there needs to be an alternative. The chair lift idea is one alternative that, as a result of this proposed Wilderness bill, is now completely taken off the table if the Ski Lift loses the weapon.

In Steve's opinion, if the lift is eliminated as a possibility the following things could happen: buildings would have to build to extreme avalanche danger standards and as a result we would probably not see any new buildings built in the Town and the Town would see many more days when the road would not open. Steve also opined that if the community installed gaz-exs as a means to control avalanches in this area, there would be up to 35 required, each costing over \$200,000. Steve went on to state that there has been talk of snow fences which do work but they normally work the best in areas that get up to 150 inches of snow in a year. The Town of Alta can receive up to 500- 700 inches of snow a year.

The Mayor explained that most of the controversy surrounding this bill was the fact that this proposal was introduced and made part of the bill at the very last minute and the Town of Alta was left out of the discussion altogether.

The Mayor did comment that, although the County supports the concept of the Wilderness bill, they did support the Towns position and requested that Alta concerns be addressed.

Within the last few weeks, the Mayor received concerns from some of the Town's residents that they had not received their household census forms. As a result of these concerns, Kate contacted the Salt Lake Census office. She, in cooperation with the Salt Lake Census office, set up two dates that residents could show up to fill out their forms with a Census representative. Weather was a factor but the Census assisted over 20

households in filling out their forms. Kate also thanked the managers of all the lodges and businesses that assisted the Census in counting all the residents that live in group quarters.

The Mayor reminded everyone that people can submit their application for a dog license through the month of April. The drawing for those licenses (two are available) will take place on Monday, May 3 at noon in the Town Office.

The Mayor reported that the budget committee held its first meeting. They plan to meet once more in preparation for the May Town council meeting. At that meeting, the Mayor will propose a tentative budget which will be acted on by the Town Council.

The Mayor reported that he had meeting with representatives from the U.S. Forest Service recently. Many topics were discussed including the OSV issue and summer programs in our community.

The Canyon School District has approached the Mayor about making a presentation at the May council meeting regarding their bond proposal for the District.

5. Treasurer's Report

Marc Dippo read the monthly report which is attached to the minutes.

Hearing no comments or questions, there was a motion by Dave Richards to approve the monthly report as submitted. There was a second by Steve Gilman and the motion was carried.

Steve Gilman inquired whether the Town should consider charging a fee for recycling services in the Town of Alta. The Town could consider this but would have to pass a fee resolution to establish a fee schedule for this service.

6. Departmental Reports

Town Administrator's Report: John Guldner reviewed the State Ombudsman's decision which supported the Town's process and decision as it relates to the natural waterways issue. Kimberly Chytraus, legal counsel for the Town, explained that the decision is an advisory opinion but is a substantive decision in some ways.

John reported on the three lawsuits. Depositions related to the Melville case were scheduled but postponed at the last minute. They have not been rescheduled.

John reported that the Town of Alta must provide an answer with the court in the Shrontz Estate lawsuit by April 16, 2010 and then the case will be calendared by the court.

The Mayor announced that the Town of Alta has substituted legal counsel on the Shrontz Estate lawsuit and retained Parsons, Kinghorn & Harris. Paul Moxley will be lead

attorney on the case and he will be assisted by Cate Brabson. The paper work has been filed with the court.

John reported that there have been no building permits issued as of the date of this meeting. John is tracking his time as it relates to the building permit process. He reported that he is averaging 8-9 hours a week. There have been plans submitted by Ken and Carolyn to tear down and replace their house in Powder Ridge.

John has met with the Salt Lake County Health department on the requirements for the demolition of buildings in the watershed. John went over some of the new regulations that govern all demolitions in the County.

John reported that it looks like the Snowpine will be going ahead with an addition/renovation this summer.

John gave a report on a Land Use Seminar that he attended on March 19th. John is working on trying to get a separate land use seminar for the Town Council and Planning Commission in Alta.

John reported on last month's Alta Planning Commission meeting. The commission reviewed the proposed land use application ordinance which would address everything else besides subdivisions in the Town of Alta. The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be on Tuesday, April 27th at Market Street Grill. The Planning Commission is also trying to address what their role will be in the future.

Kate reported that staff at Sterling Codifiers is actively working on our code book and the target completion date is still June of this year.

Kate also reported that the State of Utah Archives Division has finished copying all our permanent records and have put them on microfiche at their office in Salt Lake City. The records include all the Town's ordinances, resolutions and Town Council and Planning Commission minutes. They are now permanently protected off site and it did not cost the Town a penny.

Marshal's Report: Mike Morey explained that he did not have a formal written report for this month. Mike thanked everyone in the community for working together with all the authorities during the last storm cycle. It went surprisingly well.

Traffic metering has come to an end for the season. Mike's department will be reviewing the season to see where they can improve the program.

Mike announced that Sara Evans did in fact win the Dispatcher of the Year Award given by the Utah Chiefs of Police Association. Everyone congratulated her on this honor.

Assistant Town Administrator's Report: Claire Runge announced that the Scenic Byways Project is officially done and the two reports consisting of the Corridor Management Plan and the Interpretive Plan are available in the Town Office.

Claire reported that both UTA and Salt Lake County have been awarded grant funds to address transportation issues in Little Cottonwood Canyon. UTA will purchase some new buses and there will be improvements to several bus shelters. Salt Lake County will be looking at the Corridor Management Plan to see if they can address some issues outlined in this plan.

Alta Visitors Bureau. Sara Madsen reported that AVB and the Rustler Lodge hosted a New Zealand FAM tour.

Sara reported that AVB's twitter site continues to gain attention. AVB is starting to develop social networking as a form of advertising which will be used as part of the Alta/Snowbird campaign.

The new telephone plan for the Post Office and AVB will be saving the Town more than \$1,000 a year.

Sara is meeting with Alta and Snowbird on ideas for the Alta/Snowbird Office of Tourism Grant program.

Sara reported on the nuances of the AM530 radio that transmits from Alta. The AM530 radio message that you hear at the bottom of the canyon is controlled by UDOT Traffic Operation Center (TOC) and not the Town of Alta.

Karen Travis asked why the AM530 radio heard at the bottom of the canyon is not updated more frequently. Mike Morey said he would contact TOC about this problem along with the issues with the updates on the signs at the bottom of the canyon.

7. Discussion with possible action on the following:

- a) Minutes – March 11, 2010 Alta Town Council meeting.

Kate pointed out to the Council a correction on the minutes: F-Cause should be spelled FCOZ: Foothill Canyon Overlay Zone.

With the correction noted, there was a motion by Cliff Curry to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2010 Town Council meeting as submitted. There was a second by Steve Gilman and the motion was carried.

- b) Authorization to issue a purchase order for the purchase of a new police truck.

The Mayor explained that the reason the Town Council was addressing the issue today was that the Town needs to issue a purchase order today to order the 2011 new

Toyota pick up truck which will be delivered sometime in August. The actual expense for this vehicle will not show up in the current fiscal year (2009/2010) but will show up as part of the 2010/2011 fiscal budget. The truck will be financed through a three year municipal lease with each payment to be approximately \$9,000 a year. The Mayor mentioned that the Town tries to rotate its police cars every four years but we could not do it last year do to budget constraints.

Mike Morey explained that the Toyotas seem to perform better in the canyons and to date, the repair and maintenance of the Toyotas has been insignificant.

The cost of the new vehicle will be under the state bid price. Toyota requires authorization in the form of a purchase order before they start production of the vehicle.

Paul Moxley made a motion to authorize the issuance of a purchase order for the purchase of a 2011 Toyota Tacoma to be financed through a three year lease to start in the new fiscal year. There was a second by Dave Richards. Hearing no comments or questions a vote was taken and the motion was carried.

c) Use of the 2010/2011 CDBG Program Year Funds

The Mayor mentioned that in the past, all of the soft cost monies from the Town have been earmarked for various agencies in the valley: The Road Home and the YWCA Battered Woman's shelter for example. This year, in order for the Town to purchase equipment for the Community Center, we have to use our soft cost money. Accordingly, the Town is recommending that the soft cost money stay in Alta to be used for this purpose which directly benefits the low to moderate income residents of the Town.

The Mayor read the proposal for the use of CDBG funds for the 2010/2011 program year (the proposal is attached to the minutes).

There was a motion by Steve Gilman to approve the allocation of the Town of Alta's 2010/2011 CDBG Program Year funds (\$14,700) as outlined by the Mayor. There was a second by Cliff Curry. The Mayor opened the floor to any discussion on the motion.

Steve Gilman mentioned that the proposed tank less water heater for both building will definitely save the Town money in energy costs and save water.

The Mayor commented that in the past the Town has tried to find a way to use some of the soft cost moneys to help reimburse the local health clinic for costs associated with the care of those local residents that do not have health insurance. Karen Wiley explained that this program could only be done if part or all of the clinic operates as a non-profit organization and applies to the County for some of those funds. Those that want to apply for some or all of the Town of Alta soft cost money must make

application to the county starting in November of each year. The applications are due back by December 1st.

Kate explained that the other concept the Town is investigating is for the Town to apply for the soft cost money and use that money to help offset the cost of providing flu shots to the low/moderate income residents of the Town.

John commented that it would be too bad if the Town stopped allocating some of its funds to these outside agencies and encouraged the Town Council to find funds to give to these very needy agencies.

The Mayor called for a vote on the motion. The vote was unanimous with all members of the Town Council voting in favor of the motion. It was carried.

d) Closed door meeting to discuss litigation matters.

The Mayor commented that he saw no reason to go into a closed door session to discuss litigation matters. All members of the Town Council agreed and there was no vote taken.

8. Citizen Input

Battalion Chief Todd Caldwell, UFA, reported that the Town of Alta can go directly through the state to obtain the grant funds for the Marshal's department new lap top computers. The total amount available is \$5,200. If the Town requires additional money for this purchase, Todd mentioned the Town go through UFA with their request.

Mr. Caldwell also mentioned that ISO is currently reviewing the fire rating in the canyon and he should have an update for the Town Council by the next meeting. The review should take about a year to complete.

Dan Ketner reported on a successful winter for the Alta Bypass Shuttle. He gave the Council some handouts to review which are attached to the minutes. Dan reported that the service changed this year when they went to using a regular Ford van instead of the small bus type vehicle. They also ran into some issues with this smaller van: it could not hold as many people and the riders had to put their skies inside the van. Therefore, they are looking at buying a different type of vehicle. Mr. Ketner also mentioned that the Alta Shuttle Service would also like to submit a bid to provide this shuttle service. Canyon Transportation currently operates this service.

Dan suggested that he might approach the Ski Lifts and ask if they would like to take over the operation of the service. Dan asked if the Town would like to perform that service.

The Mayor commented that he had thought about the scenario of the Town buying a vehicle and providing the shuttle service. But at this point in time the Town cannot

afford to purchase and operate the winter bypass shuttle but would encourage the Town Council to review that option in the future.

The Mayor also suggested to Dan that he look into leasing a vehicle instead of purchasing a new vehicle.

The Mayor announced that we cannot take action on this matter but the Council supported allocating \$3,000 as part of the proposed 2010/2011 fiscal budget, an increase of \$500 over last years allocation.

Mark Haik opined that there is no map that people can refer to when discussing different matters in these meetings. He recommended that such a map be prepared and be available at all Council meetings.

Mr. Haik commented on the proposed Flagstaff lift location as it relates to public and private land ownership.

Hearing no further business before the Town Council, there was motion by Steve Gilman to adjourn the Town Council meeting. There was a second by Dave Richards and the motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

8-Apr-10

MAJOR BILLS PAID

Payroll	\$31,791.09
Payroll Taxes	\$12,753.20
Attorneys	\$22,008.40
Metering	\$6,075.00
Health Dental and Life Insurance	\$10,694.94
Inspections/Plan Checks	\$399.75
Recycling	\$1,400.00
UFA Quarterly Payment	\$24,628.00
Workers Comp. Insurance	\$1,470.95
Other Town Bills	\$10,011.00
Total	\$121,232.33

MAJOR REVENUE RECEIVED

Sales Tax - Resort - January Collections	\$132,947.06
Sales Tax Uniform - January Collections	\$46,261.69
Property Taxes	\$6,965.44
Court Fines	\$3,144.00
Energy Taxes	\$5,547.17
Dog Licenses	\$225.00

Other Revenue	\$193.88
Total	\$195,284.24
General Fund Checking	\$16,174.91
General Fund Savings	\$289,498.77